

Appl. No. 09/540,557
Amdt. dated July 2, 2004
Reply to Office Action of March 16, 2004

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No. : 09/540,557
Applicant : Mercier
Filed : March 31, 2000
TC/A.U. : 2615
Examiner : Vincent F. Boccio

Confirmation No. 1987

Docket No. : 1999-27
Customer No. : 23975

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria VA 22313-1450

AMENDMENT

Sir/Madam:

This amendment is in response to the Office Action dated March 16, 2004, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire June 16, 2004, with a one month extension of time up to and including July 16, 2004 being provided herewith.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begin on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 3 of this paper.